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LAS VEGAS METRO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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the extended forecast

KRISTIN MCMILLAN
PRESIDENT & CEO

W

e have “weathered the storm.” We’re “looking towards sunnier skies.” Weather analogies abound for the way Nevada has endured – and is recovering from – the Great Recession. In this month’s issue, we are examining how our economy is faring – how it’s poised to perform for the rest of 2014 and what we can beyond that. We hear about progress being made but, in the same breath, there is lots of talk about how much more we must achieve. So, is it safe to put away the umbrella or should we keep it handy?

At the 2014 Midyear Economic Outlook from UNLV’s Center for Business and Economic Research (CBER), Dr. Stephen P.A. Brown, chief economist at CBER, delivered some good news. Job growth is continuing at a steady and sustainable pace, with Nevada’s rate of job growth second in the nation only to North Dakota. This marks a significant increase from our rank of thirteenth in 2012. Nevada added 19,800 jobs in the first four months of 2014, representing a 5.1 percent increase. The latest unemployment numbers, while still lagging behind most of the nation, are encouraging: as of May, Nevada’s unemployment rate is 7.9 percent, the lowest it has been in nearly six years and a far cry from the unprecedented high

of 14.5 percent in 2010. While in some economic sectors we are still lagging far behind pre-Recession levels, such as commercial real estate and the housing market, there can be no doubt in that we’ve come a long way.

But let’s not get comfortable. Our greatest challenges remain ahead: how to take advantage of opportunities to diversify, create jobs by positioning Las Vegas as a great place to build and grow a business, and carve out a definitive place in the global economy. We need to be aligned as a region and committed to solid leadership across the board to make these things happen. At the Metro Chamber, our 2014 plan is focused on each of these goals by partnering with other organizations in a leadership role to take action in the right direction (however difficult), by persistently working with our local, state and federal officials on the right public policies and laws, and by pursuing initiatives (or fighting them as the case may be) to ensure that the next time we have a rainy day, it isn’t a squall. As Jim Clifton said earlier this year at the Chamber’s Preview Las Vegas, “When Las Vegas is known for being the best place to build a company, I honestly believe that there are no limits to what the city could become – potentially the most important growth city in America and the world.”

“We need to be aligned as a region and committed to solid leadership across the board to make these things happen.”



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EMPLOYMENT & JOB CREATION



Sunny

GAMING & VISITATION




Sunny

HOUSING & REAL ESTATE




Partly Cloudy

OVERALL BUSINESS CONFIDENCE



Mostly Sunny

WHAT'S THE FORECAST?



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LAS VEGAS METRO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE JULY 2014 **BUSINESS VOICE**

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chamber news

focus las vegas gives an insider's look at southern nevada

Focus Las Vegas, the Metro Chamber's immersive two-day experience that gives participants an unparalleled glimpse inside the inner workings of the Southern Nevada community and its challenges, is now open for registration. An excellent opportunity for those who may be new to the Valley, recently promoted, or wanting to get more involved with community issues, Focus Las Vegas is ideal for those who want a "crash course" in the systems that shape Southern Nevada, or those wanting an introduction to the suite of Leadership programs from the Metro Chamber. The two-day program is Monday, October 20, and Monday, October 27, at The Innovation Center. For more information, including tuition costs and program topics, visit LeadLV.com or contact Kristen Larsen, Leadership program coordinator, at 702.586.3825.

access resources and connect at the governor's conference on small business

Registration is now open for exhibitors at the Governor's Conference on Small Business. This popular annual conference makes its return to Las Vegas on September 19, at the Rio All-Suites Hotel & Casino Conference Center. Exhibitors will have access to more than 800 local attendees seeking information about products and resources and take in the atmosphere of hundreds of local small business owners gaining information and making valuable connections. Earlybird registration for exhibitors is available for just \$300 (\$200 for non-profit organizations). To take advantage of this special pricing, registration and payment must be received by August 1. For more information or to download a registration form, visit LVChamber.com.



u.s. senator dean heller addresses chamber members at august luncheon

U.S. Senator Dean Heller will be the keynote speaker at the Metro Chamber's upcoming Business Power Luncheon on Wednesday, August 20, at the Four Seasons Las Vegas. During his remarks, Senator Heller will delve into the issues impacting Southern Nevada business owners, as well as provide an update on significant federal legislation, including healthcare, job creation and the economy. Senator Heller serves on the Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, the Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee and the Special Committee on Aging. For more information, tickets or table purchases, visit LVChamber.com or call 702.641.5822.

what gives your business the edge? tell the metro chamber and win!

What makes your business excellent? Have you pioneered a new innovation? Created new best practices for a sustainable workplace? What about your corporate giving campaign? Tell the Metro Chamber why your business stands out in the marketplace for your chance to be recognized at the Business Excellence Awards, sponsored exclusively by Nevada State Bank. Nominate any size business - from a sole proprietor to one with several hundred employees. Nominations must be submitted to LVChamber.com/business-excellence-awards by July 31, to be considered. Award winners will be recognized with a feature in the *Business Voice* and at the annual Business Excellence Awards Luncheon on October 30, at Green Valley Ranch Resort Casino & Spa. For more information, visit LVChamber.com or call 702.641.5822.



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news you need



las vegas residents invited to coffee with the mayor

Residents of Las Vegas looking to meet and converse with Mayor Carolyn G. Goodman will have the opportunity on Thursday, July 17, at 8:00 a.m. at Waffles Café, located at 6446 Durango Dr., Suite 150. These informal get-togethers are a way for residents to meet with Mayor Goodman to discuss topics of their interest. Councilman Steven D. Ross of Ward 6 is also scheduled to attend. For more information, visit LasVegasNevada.gov.

“committed to our business community” supplier event promotes local small business opportunities

The Regional Business Development Advisory Council (RBDAC) is coordinating the third annual “Committed to our Business Community” supplier event on September 25, at the Las Vegas Convention Center. The focus of the event is to provide local small, minority, women-owned and disadvantaged business owners with new opportunities for purchasing and contracting activities. The event, created by the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority Purchasing Section, encourages government and private entities with more than 500 employees to increase their purchasing and contracting activities with these small businesses. If you are a government agency, hospitality group or a business/organization that provides resources, there is an exhibition section now open for registration. For more information, please contact Penny Marchell at 702.892.2953.

sba adjusts monetary- based size standards to increase small business eligibility

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has issued an interim final rule that adjusts monetary-based small business size standards (such as receipts, assets, net worth and income) for inflation to allow more small businesses to become eligible for SBA's financial and federal government procurement assistance programs. The changes take effect July 14, and the SBA is estimating that more than 8,400 additional businesses will gain small business status under these new standards. For more information on the adjusted size standards and how they may affect your business, visit SBA.gov/size.

for your benefit

C

Chamber Connections is a leads group consisting of businesspeople from a variety of industries. It is a close-knit group of business professionals who grow their networks and businesses by sharing contacts, ideas and

referrals. During the group's bimonthly meetings, members learn effective ways to network and incorporate new technologies and strategies into their business relationships while establishing a network of peers dedicated to helping one another grow. Chamber Connections is a members-only group with limited openings available based on industry. For more information, contact Pam Flynn at 702.586.3812 or chamberconnections@lvchamber.com. For a listing of upcoming meeting dates, view the calendar on page 20-21 or at LVChamber.com.



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share ideas,
gain referrals and
grow your business



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An advertisement for KTNV 3 Action News. At the top is the "abc 13 ACTION NEWS" logo. Below it is the "GOOD MORNING LAS VEGAS" logo in yellow and red. Underneath is the broadcast time "4:30-7:00AM WEEKDAYS". The main text reads "BREAKING NEWS PLUS REAL TIME WEATHER & TRAFFIC!". Below this is a photo of the three news anchors: Casey Smith, Beth Fisher, and Jessica Janner. At the bottom, there are social media icons for Facebook and Twitter, the website "KTNV.COM", a "KTNV MOBILE" app icon, and the slogan "TOGETHER MAKING LAS VEGAS A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE". The background of the ad features a night view of the New York-New York Hotel & Casino tower in Las Vegas.

working for you

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC POLICY

policy committees are back: metro chamber offers enhanced opportunities to engage & create change



G

ood economic climates are the result, in large part, of having good public policies in place to spur job creation and business growth. Having employers at the table in public policy discussions is an important part of creating the right policies for addressing community challenges in a way that will help – not hinder – our economy.

As part of the Las Vegas Metro Chamber's increasing engagement with the pressing issues facing business owners and all Southern Nevadans, the Government Affairs department has launched an expanded offering of policy committees. Beginning this month with the Healthcare Policy Committee, Metro Chamber members and their employees have an opportunity to attend and participate in these important conversations. These committees will serve as forums for members to voice their public policy concerns, interact with others in the business community who have like interests in improving Southern

Nevada, help create a business-friendly climate and provide exclusive opportunities to hear from the area's most influential policy makers – both those in the headlines and those behind the scenes.

All Metro Chamber members and their employees are invited to attend the committee meetings that relate to their area of expertise, practice of business, or in which they have a general interest. Sessions will feature presentations by area experts, other relevant community stakeholders and/or policy makers who will share information and prompt discussion between those in attendance. From there, the Metro Chamber's Government Affairs staff will work with committee co-chairs to develop policy items that will be framed alongside other issues of critical importance for the Metro Chamber's policy agenda.

Ed Domanico, who has served on a number of policy committees since joining the Metro Chamber, believes the forums are a meaningful and important part of his involvement

in the community and his business. "As a Metro Chamber member, the policy committees have given me an opportunity to interact with policy members and be part of the solution to our community's most pressing issues," he says. "I am excited to see the Chamber launch additional policy committees to help get the Valley's business community talking about ways we can improve."

Each policy committee represents a subject area important to conducting business in Southern Nevada. The new committees will touch on a wide variety of business areas, as well as policies that are of mutual interest, such as education, water, and workplace regulations, giving members ample opportunity to offer their perspectives on how to address challenges in a way that will grow and diversify the economy in Southern Nevada.

While many of the committee subject areas are straightforward – healthcare, for instance, some take a more comprehensive approach to issues. The Energy and Commerce Policy Committee will handle issues



related to the existing energy sector in Nevada, working with existing energy resources while also exploring the emerging renewable energy sector. It will also cover general business issues that are relatable to all businesses across sector areas or size distinctions. The Federal Affairs Policy Committee will interact with Nevada's Congressional delegation while also exploring ways to improve policies to capitalize on the state's nascent aerospace industry.

The Metro Chamber is looking to expand its engagement with the legal community as well. As a state on the precipice of major legal reform — from the way judges are appointed to the creation of a state appellate court — this committee could not be more timely. The Chamber is increasing its outreach efforts to lawyers, law firms and other parties interested in this sector to develop policies that are transparent, efficient and employer and business friendly.

"This is another opportunity for business owners to get involved and make changes to the system where

they see that we need them," says Brian McAnallen, vice president of Government Affairs. "The Metro Chamber's Government Affairs team works hard to provide value to members by taking their case to policy makers across the state. The new policy committees will allow us to bring our efforts to the next level."

As the state's largest business organization, the Metro Chamber is uniquely positioned to reach consensus among the business community and leverage ideas emerging from the policy committees into meaningful action and reform.

"The expanded policy committees will be a driver of our policy at the state, county, and municipal levels," says Paul Moradkhan, director of Government Affairs at the Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce. "Getting more members of the business community involved and to a greater degree will help us influence policy makers across all levels of government in Nevada to help create a climate that fosters business and employment growth."

Interested in joining one of the Chamber's policy committees? Contact Ryan Hamilton, Manager of Policy Development, at rhamilton@lvchamber.com or 702.586.3815.

This is a full listing of the planned policy committees through 2015. Watch your email to receive notifications about meeting details.

- Healthcare
- Local Government
- K-12 Education
- Higher Education
- Insurance
- Energy & Commerce
- Federal Affairs
- Gaming & Tourism
- Workforce & Workplace
- Transportation & Infrastructure
- Financial Services
- Economic Development
- Water, Environment, & Public Lands
- Legal and Judicial Affairs

your scene | you're seen

business
power
luncheon: the
margin tax



Attendees heard from a panel of experts that included Joe Henschman, Vice President of Legal & State Projects, The Tax Foundation; Curt Anderson, CEO, Fair, Anderson & Langerman CPAs and Business Advisors; Chris Nielsen, Executive Director, Nevada Department of Taxation; and Carole Vilardo, President, Nevada Taxpayers Association, on how the proposed Margin Tax Initiative would adversely impact businesses of all sizes in Nevada.



business after
hours at cabo
wabo cantina



More than 200 Metro Chamber members kicked off a summer of business building from Cabo Wabo Cantina's perch inside the Miracle Mile Shops at Planet Hollywood. Guests sipped margaritas, made introductions and formed new business connections with one another.

Business Excellence AWARDS

LUNCHEON

WHAT MAKES YOUR
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INNOVATION?**

**GIVING BACK TO
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WHAT'S THE FORECAST?

E

mployment numbers are promising, and climbs in visitor volume and gaming revenue are reassuring. Nevada's recovery from the Great Recession has been gradual, but as

we move forward, there is a marked improvement from where the state was just a year ago.

But for every stride Nevada takes in making up lost ground and rebuilding its economy, there are still reminders of how far we have yet to go: homeowners underwater on their mortgages, and continuing national attention on our economic sluggishness, evidenced recently by a *CNN Money* piece that positions Nevada as the nation's "biggest economic loser." The study cites a ten percent economic shortfall of pre-recession numbers, attributed mostly to lethargy from the construction and real estate sectors. So how should you feel? Encouraged? Cautiously optimistic? Fearful of a relapse?

There is reason to stay hopeful, however. During UNLV's Center for Business and Economic Research (CBER) Midyear Economic Outlook, Dr. Stephen P.A. Brown delivered mostly good news. "The Southern Nevada economy is improving and at an accelerating rate," he said towards

the beginning of the program. Brown noted that Nevada is returning to its long-term trends of growth, which have typically been more robust than the rest of the nation.

Now, midyear through 2014, the Metro Chamber brings you up-to-date on which indicators are heating up, and which are cooling down, how the economy is faring this year, and what the extended forecast is for the rest of the year.



The employment numbers for 2014 have been encouraging for future growth on a sustainable scale, especially considering that Nevada was number one in lost jobs from 2008 – 2010. From there, the state reached a critical turning point. While still behind the national average in job growth in 2011, Nevada was 35 in growth rate. Jumping further ahead in 2012 to the thirteenth spot in job growth, it seems the state had put the worst behind it. Impressive job growth continued last year, with Nevada holding the number two spot in the nation for adding jobs. According to CBER, Nevada is positioning itself to see increases in employment in the Las Vegas,

EMPLOYMENT & JOB CREATION



Sunny

GAMING & VISITATION



Sunny

HOUSING & REAL ESTATE



Partly Cloudy

OVERALL BUSINESS CONFIDENCE



Mostly Sunny

Reno-Sparks and Carson City regions for 2014. While Las Vegas' job growth still lags behind Nevada's, both are seeing modest increases from 2013, with the trend expecting to continue through 2014.

The Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation (DETR) also recently announced that the unemployment rate as of May 2014 is the lowest it has been in nearly six years, falling to a seasonally adjusted 7.9 percent. The number of unemployed individuals in the state was reported at 108,000 (19,000 less than May 2013), with the Las Vegas metropolitan statistical area adding 25,900 jobs relative to May of 2013. In May, initial claims for unemployment insurance in Nevada fell 23 percent compared to the same month last year, with DETR reporting about 12,500 claims filed last month (contrasted with the average of 14,000 per month in 2014 thusfar and the recession peak of more than 36,000 in December 2008).

Worth noting is the highest job growth rate of any sector in May: the construction industry. In May, it grew by 12.5 percent, or an increase of 7,000 jobs relative to May 2013, and represented the highest employment reading for the

construction industry in the state since January 2010.

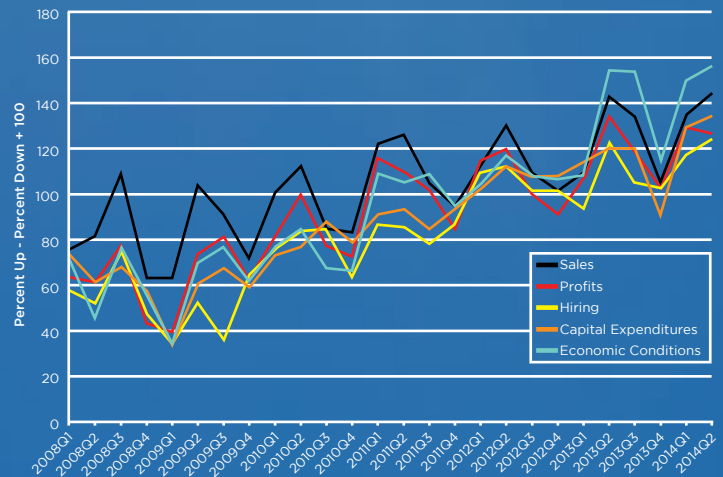
According to DETR, Nevada's job base is growing more than double the national average – a necessary rate when Nevada's status as the number two state for unemployment claims is taken into account. Governor Brian Sandoval commented on the numbers, "Our unemployment rate, which hit nearly 14 percent during the recessionary peak, has fallen below eight percent for the first time since September 2008. Although encouraging, there remains much work to be done. We must continue our economic development and diversification efforts until the needs of Nevada's unemployed and underemployed have been met."



Indicators in gaming and tourism were mostly positive coming from CBER's Midyear Economic Outlook, with visitor volume and gaming revenue climbing less than three percent this year. 2013 saw a decline of less than a half percent coming off 2012's record year for visitation. According to CBER, visitor volume is pacing on a positive



**CBER BUSINESS CONFIDENCE INDEX:
COMPOSITE INDEX COMPONENTS**



Graph courtesy of UNLV Center for Business & Economic Research

swing. It is forecasting a 0.9 percent increase in visitor volume in 2014, and an additional two percent in 2015. Dr. Brown also noted that gross gaming revenue is outpacing visitor volume at this point in the year, and visitor volume will have to continue to work to keep up. "It's going to take a fair amount of growth in order to soak up the number of rooms here in Las Vegas, particularly with the new rooms coming online later this year," he explained.

Comparatively, Las Vegas is now less than five percent below its 2007 peak in gaming revenue, although Brown cautioned that competition nationwide is causing these somewhat slow gains and is likely to continue, as nationwide gaming is pacing alongside the U.S. economy. Much of the gains are concentrated around the Las Vegas Strip, with market share dissipating as they move further away to other parts of Las Vegas, Clark County and Nevada as a whole.



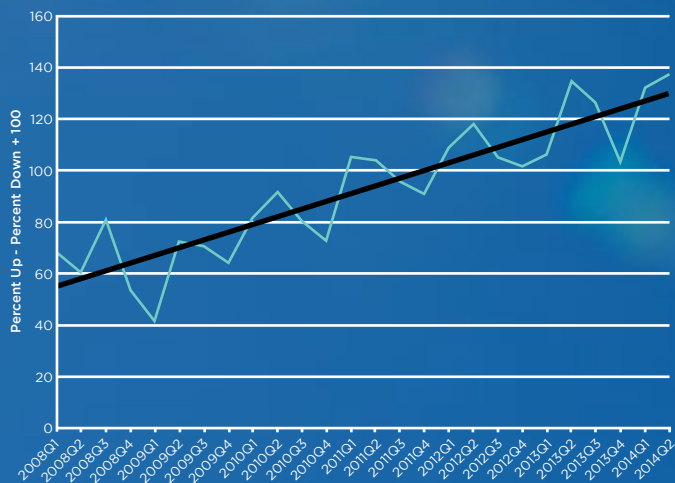
A sore spot for Nevada – and specifically Southern Nevada – throughout the recession and the recovery has been the real estate market,

which has just recently begun to see the sun peeking through the clouds. Housing permits issued in Clark County have begun to rise at a relatively sustainable rate, according to the Case-Shiller Home Price Indexes and CBER, and home prices are continuing to rise, although the growth rate has flattened a bit in Las Vegas. Las Vegas housing prices have risen 44.8 percent since hitting an all-time low in 2012.

CBER examined prices in collaboration with months of listed supply to give insight to the rise in pricing. "The months of listed supply... is below six months, and the months of vacant supply is below three months," says Brown. "Once listed supply is below 6.2 months, there is a tendency for prices to continue to rise. Our expectations are that prices will continue to rise."

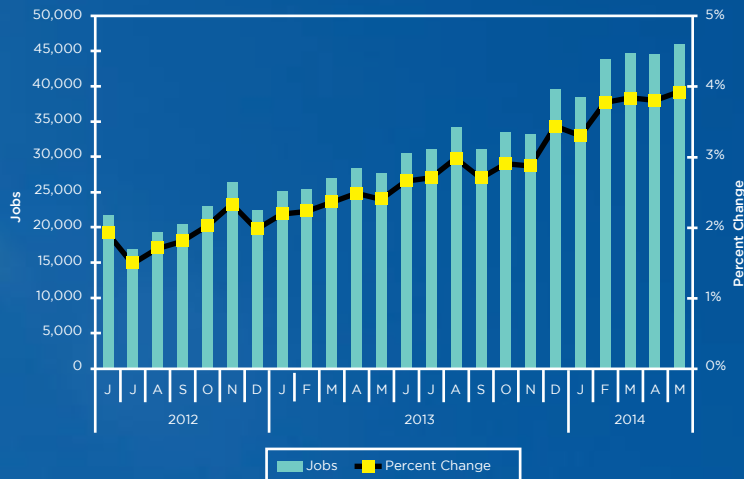
Nevada continues to lead the nation as having the highest percentage of homeowners with negative equity mortgages. While the number is declining, there is still much room for improvement. In 2009, 70 percent of homeowners in Nevada had negative equity. In the first quarter of 2013, 45 percent of Nevada homeowners had negative equity; in first quarter 2014, the number had dropped to 29.4 percent.

CBER BUSINESS CONFIDENCE INDEX



Graph courtesy of UNLV Center for Business & Economic Research

NEVADA NONFARM JOB GROWTH (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED; YEAR-OVER-YEAR)



Graph courtesy of Department of Employment Training and Rehabilitation

“Part of that is the result of foreclosures; part of that is the result of improving house prices. Part of it is the fact that people just stayed in their house and continued to make payments, even though they were underwater,” explains Brown.

A point of interest for new home sales is the relationship between the population growth in Las Vegas and new home sales. Las Vegas is seeing an upswing in population since the end of the recession, measured by drivers licenses issued, and is an encouraging sign for the region. The current trend, according to CBER, is a more aggressive rate of move-ins than of new homes being built, resulting in higher rates of home rentals. Brown is optimistic that due to the growth, there is great potential for new house sales in the area, signaling enhanced and continued strength in the housing market.

Commercial real estate is also a point of optimism. Retail space vacancies are reducing and are now sitting at 11.5 percent, with industrial space vacancies not far away at 11.1 percent. Excess office space represents the largest area of opportunity for commercial real estate, with vacancies measuring at 22.7 percent. This is still a high number but is slowly reducing, according to Brown.



CBER measures Southern Nevada business confidence based on five components: sales, profits, hiring, capital expenditures and economic conditions. “Our Southern Nevada Business Confidence Index shows upward trends, and every component of that index is in positive territory,” says Brown. With indicators such as hiring and profits showing progress and increased assurance in the future of the economy, Southern Nevada is poised to continue its recovery at a strong and sustainable pace, eventually returning to its long-term trends.

FOR MORE INFORMATION...

UNLV Center for Business
and Economic Research
www.cber.unlv.edu

Nevada Department of Employment,
Training and Rehabilitation
www.nvdetr.org

Nevada Economy at a Glance,
U.S. Department of Labor
www.bls.gov/eag/eag.nv.htm

stop the margin tax

EXPERTS GIVE MEMBERS THE REALITY OF A NEVADA WITH A MARGIN TAX

A

t the Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce Business Power Luncheon on June 18, four experts gave their insights on the proposed Margin Tax Initiative, appearing on the November ballot as Question 3.

With experts from across multiple industries and areas of expertise citing the poor structure of the tax, the difficulty in implementation and the implications to Nevada's economy, jobs and business community, the bottom line was clear: the margin tax would be a devastating blow to Nevada's fragile economy.

If the ballot measure is passed, it would impose a two percent tax on gross revenues that exceed \$1 million during the year, meaning that even if a business did not turn a profit in that year, it would shoulder the tax burden of the entire amount – not just the amount over the \$1 million threshold. Carole Vilardo, moderator of the panel and president of the Nevada Taxpayers Association, says, "This two percent Margin Tax would be on gross revenues, not profits, so it's the equivalent of a nearly 15 percent business tax. That would make Nevada one of the five highest taxed states in the country for businesses."

Curt Anderson, CEO of Fair, Anderson & Langerman CPAs and Business Advisors, called the tax an "abomination" during the luncheon, and used several examples from tax returns on businesses that would be severely affected by the tax (such as restaurants, small manufacturers and service providers). With so much confusion about the law's implementation and the detriment it would cause to Nevada's economy, Nevada's CPA society voted to oppose it. "It's an indictment of our process in the state of Nevada," Anderson distilled during the luncheon.

Joe Henchman, vice president of legal and state projects for The Tax Foundation, a non-partisan research think tank based in Washington, D.C., explained how the effects of the Margin Tax would significantly impede business creation, growth and sustenance in Nevada and cited how devastating the pyramiding effect would be. Even if a business didn't make the gross revenues to be subject to the tax, increased costs for goods and services necessary for that business to operate would occur, thus forcing Nevadans and smaller business owners to pay higher prices from everything from food and clothing to utilities, healthcare and housing.

VOTE NO ON 3



Another major concern with the proposed Margin Tax is the difficulty implementing it. Chris Nielsen, executive director of the Nevada Department of Taxation, stressed that given the short period of time between the election on November 4, and the effective date of January 1, 2015, the administrative burden would be significant. CPAs, financial planners and other experts forced to deal with the complexity of the tax structure would likely see heavy delays in processing, answers to questions on the tax and how it is applied to different businesses and industries. Additional tax department staff would be required to handle the implementation and adjustments to the tax as time passed, as well, creating more bureaucracy and complexity within our state – just to deal with the tax.

For more information or to join the growing list of opponents to the Margin Tax, go to LVChamber.com or contact the Government Affairs department at 702.641.5822.

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what's happening

PLACES TO BE. PEOPLE TO MEET. THINGS TO KNOW. IN **JULY**

july chamber connections

Join this established dedicated leads group made up of professionals from a variety of industries. Limited openings available; call for space availability.

5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
See website for details on locations.

Tuesday, July 8
Tuesday, July 22

business breakfast featuring major general jay b. silveria

JULY 17

1

TUESDAY, JULY 1 **EGGS & ISSUES FEATURING** **U.S. CONGRESSMAN JOE HECK**

U.S. Congressman Heck will make remarks on issues impacting the Southern Nevada business community and participate in a Q & A session with the audience.

7:30 – 8:00 a.m.: Registration & Networking

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.: Program

Four Seasons Las Vegas

3960 Las Vegas Blvd. South

\$40: Metro Chamber members

\$55: Non-members

\$400: Table of 10

Premiere Sponsor: Chamber Insurance & Benefits

Series Sponsors: Allegiant, CenturyLink, Southwest Gas,

Sunrise Health System, Touro University Nevada

8

TUESDAY, JULY 8 **CHAMBER VOICES TOASTMASTERS**

Become a better speaker and a more effective presenter.

Open to all members.

10:45 a.m. - Noon

First American Title Company

2500 Paseo Verde Pkwy., Ste. 120

\$54 every six months. Guests always complimentary.

10

THURSDAY, JULY 10 **HEALTHCARE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**

This committee gives members the opportunity to learn about and gain insight on key topics in healthcare. During this session, the committee will discuss paramedic and ambulatory care, as well as related programs, with the region's top private medical transport companies.

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce

8363 W. Sunset Rd., Ste. 250

Complimentary and exclusive to Metro Chamber members and their employees

14

MONDAY, JULY 14 **VEGAS YOUNG PROFESSIONALS** **TOASTMASTERS**

The VYP Toastmasters group is for all members to aid in the development of speaking, presentation and leadership skills.

6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

The Ogden Clubhouse 16th Floor

150 Las Vegas Blvd.

FREE for guests

\$60 to join, \$36 every six months.

00 - CHAMBER EVENT

00 - VYP EVENT

how
to
register:

Visit LVChamber.com and
click on the Events Calendar.

Call 702.641.5822.

july sponsors:



17

THURSDAY, JULY 17

LAS VEGAS BUSINESS BREAKFAST

Major General Jay B. Silveria, Commander of the United States Air Force Warfare Center at Nellis Air Force Base, will discuss the economic impact and benefit of Nellis Air Force Base and the military to the Southern Nevada economy.

7:30 - 8:00 a.m.: Registration & Networking

8:00 - 9:30 a.m.: Program

Texas Station

2101 Texas Star Lane North

\$25: Metro Chamber members

\$35: Non-members

\$250: Table of 10

Sponsor: Chamber Insurance & Benefits

17

THURSDAY, JULY 17

**VEGAS YOUNG PROFESSIONALS
FUSION MIXER**

Kick back, stock up on business cards and be ready to network at Double Barrel Roadhouse, featuring indoor and outdoor seating, live entertainment and fun libations.

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Double Barrel Roadhouse at Monte Carlo

3770 Las Vegas Blvd. South

Online: \$10 members, \$15 non-members

At the door: \$15 members, \$20 non-members

Program Sponsors: Chamber Insurance & Benefits,

UnitedHealthcare, Wells Fargo

Mixer Sponsor: Vegas Inc.

22

TUESDAY, JULY 22

NEW MEMBER BREAKFAST

At this exclusive event for new members of the Chamber, each participant will have the opportunity to introduce themselves and their business in a friendly atmosphere.

7:30 - 8:00 a.m.: Registration & Networking

8:00 - 9:30 a.m.: Program

SpringHill Suites by Marriott

Las Vegas Convention Center

2989 Paradise Rd.

Sponsors: Bank of Nevada, CenturyLink, Chamber Insurance & Benefits

22

TUESDAY, JULY 22

CHAMBER VOICES TOASTMASTERS

See July 8 for details.

28

MONDAY, JULY 28

**VEGAS YOUNG PROFESSIONALS
TOASTMASTERS MEETING**

See July 14 for details.

member insights

AS A BUSINESSPERSON, WHAT KEEPS YOU UP AT NIGHT?

I am always forward-thinking, so I lose sleep at night strategizing about the next steps for our business objectives and sales, as well as the well-being of all my employees and their families. At UNITY ONE, Inc., we thrive on being a very family-oriented business and the health and happiness of all in the organization are priority number one!

Brandon Harris – CEO – UNITY ONE, Inc.

I am always cognizant of lead generating and what I have in my pipeline. It's my bread and butter!

Heather Mongie – REALTOR, GREEN, CDPE, SFR, CIPS – Exit Realty Platinum Group (A)

Marketing products or services through social networking site is the thing to do nowadays, but not an easy thing to do. How does a Facebook page directly impact selling services? Many businesses create a Facebook page but none of them seem to really know how to convert the network into monetary value.

Fusae Parker – Director of Development – Summit Consultancy Group (B)

As a businesswoman, nothing keeps me up at night. I make sure my life is in balance. That means leaving the work stress at work, leaving my sore muscles at the gym and thinking about my wonderful family all day long. Live in a work/personal life balance and things will not keep you up at night. Also, a healthy dose of exercise makes it easier to sleep at night!

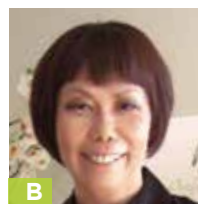
Robin Bigda – Base Control – GetDocsNow.com (C)

Keeping my employees happy, motivated and productive. Making sure that clients are happy and that they are paying in a timely manner. That is a constant challenge.

George Cardoso – Chief Executive Officer – FlexEd, LLC

What keeps me up at night is thinking how mobile marketing is helping the small to medium businesses to *Fortune 100* businesses connect with their customers, and helping them reach potential new customers.

Jonathan Morgan – National Sales Manager – SkyWire (D)



The midnight oil burns by studying current trends and finding ways to remove ourselves from the status quo. Having products in saturated markets, we look to stand out by providing an overall quality experience over uninspired quantitative accessibility. When you dodge shadows cast by the masses, your spotlight will appear.

Ryan Schoof – Director of Sales and Marketing – Black Dragon Enterprises (E)

I find one of my greatest challenges to be the re-education of the business sector on the importance of proper e-waste disposal, data security/destruction, and that to properly do so incurs a certain level of expense. EPC Inc. provides a responsible solution for all these issues.

Darin Mercier – ITAD Consultant – EPC Inc.

in the know

FUEL REVENUE INDEXING - INVESTING IN OUR COMMUNITY, ONE GALLON AT A TIME

BY COMMISSIONER LARRY BROWN,
CLARK COUNTY COMMISSION
CHAIRMAN, REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
OF SOUTHERN NEVADA

In 2013, Assembly Bill 413 was passed by the Nevada State Legislature and signed into law by Governor Brian Sandoval. This enabled the Clark County Commission to enact Fuel Revenue Indexing (FRI), which ties the fuel tax to the Producer Price Index from January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2016. FRI will generate up to \$700 million for the construction of critically needed transportation infrastructure projects throughout Southern Nevada. The Regional Transportation Commission (RTC), working with its member agencies, identified 185 projects to be funded by FRI. It is estimated that this initiative will create more than 9,000 new jobs with a primary focus on hiring Southern Nevadans.

Without FRI, the RTC would have approximately \$22 million per year over the next decade for street and highway projects. On an annual basis, this amount could only fund one interchange, one mile of roadway in each jurisdiction or one small segment of the 215 Beltway. With FRI in place, we are able to provide the needed infrastructure to improve the safety and efficiency of moving residents, tourists and goods throughout Clark County. We are investing in our community's sustainability and positioning ourselves to remain competitive in the Southwest's burgeoning national and global economy.

During the past 18 months, we have experienced tremendous cooperation and collaboration throughout the community. State and local public agencies, community organizations, architectural and engineering firms, corporations and small businesses, minority and women-owned businesses, chambers of commerce, neighborhood associations, local labor groups and many other stakeholders have been actively involved. This effort has truly been a public-private partnership. As President John F. Kennedy once commented:

"Far from being natural enemies, the public sector and private sector are necessary allies."

The key message is that together, with a unified community voice, we can accomplish great things. We have a shared belief that investing in our transportation infrastructure



will ensure long-term economic vitality, increase future job opportunities and preserve the quality of life that makes Southern Nevada one of the finest communities in America.

The first few months of FRI has produced some impressive statistics - as of April, 25 projects totaling \$65 million have been awarded, creating more than 800 jobs, including work for 34 small businesses that include women and minority ownership. Further, many local companies are reporting hiring new employees to meet this growing demand, a demand that is increasing on a daily basis.

There is momentum. There is optimism. We have made a promise to the citizens and businesses of Southern Nevada. Now we must deliver on that promise. For more information and to follow our progress, please visit www.rtcnv.com/fri.

spotlights

(B) Wayne Fritz

Vice President/General Manager – MV Transportation

Wayne Fritz started his career as a bus washer for Palomar Transport in 1971. Prior to his current position with MV Transportation, Fritz held positions of Vice President of Operations at Larson Transportation, Vice President of Operations at Ryder/ATE, Region Vice President at First Transit and Region Vice President at MV Transportation. In his current position, Fritz has oversight responsibility for the Las Vegas Regional Transportation Commission service operating from the Intermodal Bus Maintenance Facility in North Las Vegas.

(A) Bill Regenhardt

Vice President of Business Development – The Range 702

Bill Regenhardt is a native Las Vegas and has been actively involved in many facets of the local business community and community service organizations. With more than 25 years of senior management experience, Regenhardt has served as a C-level corporate officer, Director of Operations, Director of Sales and Marketing, and Regional Manager. As a 2012 Leadership Las Vegas graduate, he continues to challenge and influence the standard of community service by serving on various non-profit and for-profit executive and advisory boards.



A



B



C



D

(D) Melissa Maher

Senior Vice President, Global Partner Group – Expedia, Inc.

Melissa Maher manages the global business relationships with Expedia's strategic hotel partners and leads the Industry Relations team. Maher also oversees the team responsible for driving the strategy, distribution and support of Expedia's gaming lodging supply division. Maher also served as regional director for Expedia. She received an MBA in hotel administration from UNLV and serves on the board for HSMAI, on the Starwood Leisure Advisory Board and is an advisor on the Expedia Women's Leadership Council.

(C) John Burke

Chief Executive Officer – Instep Recovery Services LLC

John Burke has developed an extraordinary career in executive management. He has the ability to identify barriers to entry of markets, develop efficient processes, utilize technology, hire and manage quality staff. Burke has held the positions of Vice President, Sales & Marketing of 123College.com, Partner & CMO of Ardor Health Solutions, and most recently, owner & CEO of Instep Recovery Services. He has generated more than \$100 million in gross sales over the past 10 years.

president's
club

Lisa Santwer**Director, Marketing & Public Relations – Comprehensive Cancer Centers of Nevada**

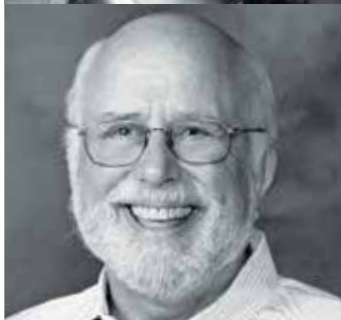
Lisa Santwer oversees marketing and communications for CCCN, which specializes in oncology, hematology, breast surgery and research. Santwer helped establish CCCN's nonprofit, ORION Cancer Foundation, and serves on the Executive Committee of Candlelighters Childhood Cancer Foundation of Nevada. Her community activities include serving as co-chair for 2015 Leadership Las Vegas Health Day and advisory board for UNLV School of Health Sciences. Santwer is a 2012 Women's Chamber of Commerce Hall of Fame inductee.

**Ed Domanico****Director of Environmental Affairs – AET Environmental**

Edward J. Domanico is Director of Environmental Affairs for AET Environmental, a leading and highly credentialed provider of environmental and industrial services, hazardous waste handling and remediation in Nevada. Domanico is responsible for AET's regional strategic marketing policies, as well as expanding the company's operating capability throughout the state and in the region. Domanico brings more than 22 years of environmental experience to this role as an industry leader in developing environmental policies and executing programs to shape environmental excellence.

**Greg Twedt****Business Counselor – The SCORE Association, Ch. 243**

Greg Twedt is past Chapter Chairman of SCORE in Southern Nevada and is currently the chapter's Marketing Team Leader and Assistant District Director. Twedt was a co-founder of Highjump Software, where he held positions as Vice President of Product Development, CFO and General Manager. He has also held executive marketing and development positions at Hutchinson Technology and served as a management consultant with Deloitte & Touche.



executive
level

Bob Linden**President – Shred-It Las Vegas**

Bob Linden has been a Las Vegas Metro Chamber member since he started Shred-it Las Vegas in 1999. He currently serves on the Government Affairs and Prospectors Committees and is past president of the Prospectors and Business Council. He has also served on the Customer Service Excellence and Business Education Series committees. The Chamber Business Excellence Awards recognized Shred-it as 2008 Green Business of the Year. Shred-It was also recognized by the Nevada Psychological Association as a Psychologically Healthy Workplace.

Rena Loughton**Secretary/Officer – The Charles Marshall Foundation**

Rena Loughton is a Las Vegas native who graduated from University of Nevada, Las Vegas with a dual-BS in Science and Clinical Laboratory Science with a minor in Chemistry. She is an active member of our community, participating in several annual high-profile events. Currently, she is the Secretary/Officer of the Charles Marshall Foundation, which provides needed supplies to local schools, hospitals, and research facilities.

Joice Bass**Partner – Lewis Roca Rothgerber**

Joice Bass, JD, MBA, CIPP/US, is a partner in the firm's Commercial Litigation Practice Group. She has extensive experience advising business clients regarding their commercial transactions and relationships as well as representing them in legal disputes in the courts and administrative forums. Bass' clients come from a broad spectrum of industries, including gaming and hospitality, fine art, alcoholic beverages distribution, healthcare, telecommunications, real estate and government contractors.

business expo:

CONNECTIONS, COMMUNITY AND
COLLABORATION AT BUSINESS EXPO 2014



A

bout 2,000 attendees and more than 150 exhibitors connected, exchanged business cards and made plans to do business at the 2014 Business Expo, the Metro Chamber's annual trade show and networking event. Metro Chamber members rolled out new products, boasted new services and created new professional relationships. Whether you were in the market for an innovative dry cleaning product, a new way to boost your online presence or a fun spot for a bite to eat, Business Expo had it all. Said one attendee, "It's always great to see what's out there, and Expo is consistently the place to see it!"

Reprising its fun and popular pop-up community theme, aisleways were designated as streets and attendees had the opportunity to visit with one another at many lounges and parks set up throughout the show floor. At the Metro Chamber booth, attendees were able to strut their business card or name tag down the red carpet in front of the exclusive BrandCam, a fun way to gain some additional exposure for show attendees and exhibitors as they walked through the entrance. Attendees could also take their Business Expo Selfie at the Chamber booth.



business expo



During the show, members of the Las Vegas business community received exclusive show-only discounts and offers, sampled cuisines from nearly 20 of Las Vegas' most popular and up-and-coming restaurants, eateries and caterers, visited with non-profit organizations to build alliances and met with government organizations to get the latest need-to-know information for their business. An exhibitor from this year's show commented, "We had a great experience at Business Expo. It is a great way to meet people and promote our services. We will definitely do it again next year!"

For more photos from Business Expo 2014, visit LVChamber.com. The Metro Chamber thanks the sponsors, exhibitors and attendees who helped make the day a success for the local business community.

Interested in the Metro Chamber's next exhibiting opportunity? Be on the lookout in future issues of the *Business Voice* and your email inbox for information on Preview Las Vegas in January 2015 for more opportunities to display your products and services and meet new customers and contacts.

member news

PRESIDENT'S CLUB MEMBER | EXECUTIVE LEVEL

The Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce is proud to provide members with a place to publish their current announcements. Email news items to pr@lvchamber.com or fax to Public Relations at 702.735.0320.

congratulations

Lewis Roca Rothgerber and five of its attorneys received high honors in the areas of Gaming & Licensing and Litigation: General Commercial from Chambers & Partners in the 2014 *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* guide.

Brian D. Lawenda, MD, a board certified Radiation Oncologist with **21st Century Oncology**, was appointed to the University of Nevada School of Medicine's Department of Internal Medicine as a clinical professor. He was also named the National Director of Integrative Oncology & Cancer Survivorship for 21st Century Oncology.



Snell & Wilmer Partner John Delikanakis was named to two boards – the board of directors of the **Las Vegas Global Economic Alliance** and the advisory board of The Modern Contemporary Art Museum.

Tower of Jewels is celebrating 50 years of customer service, community involvement and excellence in jewelry manufacturing.

Chambers & Partners recognized **Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck** in its annual *Chambers USA Guide* with top Nevada practices in corporate and commercial, gaming and licensing, litigation, general commercial and real estate.

Full service accounting firm **Piercy Bowler Taylor and Kern** announces that firm shareholder Scott Taylor, CPA has been appointed to the board of the **Technology Business Alliance of Nevada** and will serve as treasurer.

Lionel Sawyer & Collins and 13 of its attorneys have been recognized as leaders in their field in the 2014 edition of *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*.



Las Vegas-Clark County Library District's Branch Manager Salvador Avila is recipient of The Dr. Arnulfo D. Trejo Librarian of the Year Award, recognizing early to mid-career library professionals who have promoted and advocated services to the Spanish-speaking and Latino communities.

Susan Lednický, program officer for **University of Nevada Cooperative Extension** and the Chefs for Kids program, was recognized as an Honorary Life Member of the ACF Chefs Las Vegas for her outstanding dedication and 20 year involvement.

The Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Southern Nevada names Diana Bennett, **Wynn Resorts**, Fred Keeton, HRC Las Vegas Steering Committee and David "Bootsy Carmichael" Heckman and Rob Haggard as The Center Honors recipients.

announcements



Mayte Heredia was appointed as Ready To Learn Project Facilitator for **Vegas PBS**. Ready To Learn project provides literacy, health and math-based workshops to schools and families.

Renee Guglielmetti is now with **Ivory Star Productions** and handles sales, marketing and public relations for the production company.

Victoria L. Kammer was recently appointed broker development coordinator for **Aflac, Nevada South** to develop and oversee Aflac broker relations and present Aflac capabilities to insurance brokers in Las Vegas and surrounding areas.



The Range 702 appointed Bill Regenhardt, MBA, as its vice president of Business Development. He will be responsible for strategic marketing and communications and expanding the enterprise's operational capabilities.



The Las Vegas Global Economic Alliance announced Michael Erin has joined the organization as Chief of Staff and Global Initiatives Manager to lead efforts to both attract foreign direct investment and assist local businesses in taking their companies to the global market.



City National Bank hired Robert Newman as a relationship manager for its Tropicana branch on the east side of the Las Vegas Valley. Newman has 12 years of experience in the banking industry.

Valley Electric Association, Inc. appointed Chris Brooks, a recognized leader in Nevada's renewable energy industry, as executive vice president of energy services.

community service

As part of its Caring, Giving, Changing community campaign, **Miracle Mile Shops at Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino** will collect donations in its fountain throughout July for **Dress for Success Southern Nevada**.

Max's Restaurant hosted "Military Appreciation Day" on June 26, and served a FREE Max's Fried Chicken to active and retired servicemen with Military ID.

After-School All-Stars Las Vegas received several donations, including \$5,000 from **Cox Charities**, to make the organization's free, comprehensive after-school academic and enrichment programs possible for more than 5,000 at-risk students in 13 different Clark County School District elementary and middle schools.

upcoming events



This summer, **The LINQ, Caesars Entertainment's** new open-air shopping, dining and entertainment district, hosts BLOQ PARTY Tuesdays for locals featuring live entertainment and music, along with locals

discounts, including 50 percent off rides on the High Roller with a Nevada ID.

The 20th annual Summerlin Patriotic Parade, sponsored by **The Howard Hughes Corporation**, takes place on Friday, July 4, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. The free event begins at the corner of Hillpointe Road and Hills Center Drive in The Trails village of Summerlin.

Station Casinos will host "We Love Locals' July 4th Fireworks Blast," a nine-minute fireworks show, on July 4, after 9:00 p.m. The fireworks shows will go off at **Green Valley Ranch Resort** and **Red Rock Resort**.

The 17th Annual Advertising Community Talent Show will take place on Saturday, August 2, with all proceeds benefiting **Safe Nest**. For more information, visit actslv.org.

wheeling and dealing

Gimme Some Sugar Bake Shoppe is open at 19 S. Stephanie St., Ste. 160 Henderson, NV 89012, in the Gold's Gym plaza.

Transparent Mental Health, Inc. moved to a new temporary location at 7473 W. Lake Mead Blvd, Las Vegas, NV 89128. Its phone number, emails and website remain the same.

Commercial Executives Real Estate Services represented the leasing of office space located at 9115 W Russell Rd #120 in Las Vegas, for 60 months. The transaction is valued at approximately \$334,500.

Bahama Bucks Las Vegas celebrated its one-year anniversary in June.

Yokel Local Internet Marketing now offers Google Trusted Photographers and helps businesses utilize Google Business View. Visit yokellocal.com or call 702.389.3212 for more information.

BusinessSuites, a premium executive office suites provider, will open its third Las Vegas location in Downtown Summerlin at 1980 Festival Plaza Drive, Suite 300, Las Vegas, NV 89135.

ribbon cuttings

CELEBRATING BUSINESS GROWTH

To arrange your ribbon cutting, contact Georgia Allen at 702.586.3838 or email gallen@lvchamber.com



EL AMERICA FIRST CREDIT UNION

America First Credit Union commemorated its newest branch located at 1225 W. Craig Rd. It is a member-owned, not-for-profit cooperative financial institution with 104 full-service branches throughout Utah and Las Vegas. Call 702.968.1100 or visit americafirst.com.



BELFOR PROPERTY RESTORATION

BELFOR Property Restoration celebrated its open house located at 5870 La Costa Canyon Ct. BELFOR has held the number one ranking in *Qualified Remodeler* magazine since 2001. Call 702.933.6866 or visit www.us.belfor.com.



CARLYON LAW GROUP, PLLC

Carlyon Law Group, PLLC celebrated its Chamber membership and 28 years of experience. Carlyon Law Group, PLLC is an A-V rated firm located at 3333 E. Serene Ave., Ste. 110. Call 702.685.444 or visit carlyonlawgroup.com.



INFINITY BUSINESS MAGAZINE

Infinity Business Magazine announced its grand opening with clients, friends and family. Its plan is to create an avenue for small to mid-size businesses to be able to market and advertise at an affordable cost. The magazine informs and educates its readers by including articles to help improve their business. Call 702.557.0404 or visit inblv.com.



PC ROBERTO'S TACO SHOP

The Robledo family celebrated 50 years of serving fresh, fast Mexican food at its Southern Nevada restaurant chain, Roberto's Taco Shop. It was recognized by the *Las Vegas Review-Journal's* 2012 'Best of Las Vegas' Reader's Poll as a favorite spot for tacos. For more information visit robertostacoshop.com.



FLEMING'S PRIME STEAKHOUSE & WINE BAR

Fleming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar, founded in 1998, welcomed its newest Las Vegas location in Town Square. In addition to inspired service and expertly prepared prime steak, its founders focused on The Fleming's 100® — its award-winning collection of 100 wines by the glass. For more information, visit flemingsteakhouse.com.

SPONSORED BY:



PC - President's Club

EL - Executive Level

\$ - Chamber Member Discount



BUDGET WATCHERS\$

Budget Watchers\$ announced its grand opening at 1201 N. Decatur Blvd., Ste. 107. It offers tax preparation and notary services. Call 702.834.5200 or visit budgetwatchers.com.



JERRY'S NUGGET CASINO

Jerry's Nugget Casino, located at 1821 Las Vegas Blvd. N., commemorated its 50-year anniversary with local dignitaries, family and community leaders. Call 702.399.3000 or visit jerrysnugget.com.



FOUNDATION FOR AN INDEPENDENT TOMORROW

Foundation for an Independent Tomorrow (FIT) showcased its nearly 9,000 square-foot second story addition with local dignitaries and board members. Located at 1931 Stella Lake Dr., FIT provides job training, coaching and support based on job seekers' individual needs and skills. Call 702.367.4348 or visit lasvegasfit.org.



AMALGAMATED BANK

Amalgamated Bank celebrated more than 90 years as the nation's largest majority-owned union bank. Amalgamated Bank, located at 4001 S. Decatur Blvd., has been serving the Las Vegas community since 2008 by offering free banking services and excellent customer service. Call 702.248.4693 or visit amalgamatedbank.com.



DESERT PARKWAY BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE HOSPITAL

Desert Parkway Behavioral Healthcare Hospital, located at 3247 S. Maryland Pkwy., announced its grand opening as a community resource and employer of choice that provides high quality behavioral and addiction treatment to those in need. Call 702.776.3500 or visit desertparkway.com.



INSTITUTE OF INSPECTION, CLEANING AND RESTORATION CERTIFICATION

Institute of Inspection, Cleaning and Restoration Certification (IICRC) commemorated its grand opening at 4043 S. Eastern Ave. IICRC is a certification and standard-setting non-profit organization for the inspection, cleaning and restoration industries. This new property will serve as its global resource center. Call 702.685.7767 or visit iicrc.org.

ribbon cuttings

CELEBRATING BUSINESS GROWTH

To arrange your ribbon cutting, contact Georgia Allen at 702.586.3838 or email gallen@lvchamber.com



EL VEGAS PBS

Vegas PBS celebrated the opening of its Global Online Advanced Learning (GOAL) community computer lab. With 21 computer stations, the lab serves as a high-stakes testing facility that provides GOAL students without computer access with a free place to take courses. Call 702.799.1010 or visit vegaspbs.org.



AJILON PROFESSIONAL STAFFING/ACCOUNTING PRINCIPALS

Ajilon Professional Staffing/Accounting Principals commemorated its three-year anniversary and new location at 3800 Howard Hughes Pkwy., Ste. 620, with the Las Vegas Metro and Latin Chambers of Commerce. It specializes in temporary and permanent recruiting and placement of top talent for positions in human resources, office administration, finance and accounting. Call 702.932.6118 or visit ajilon.com.



KANJI STEAK & SUSHI

Kanji Steak & Sushi announced its grand opening at 6125 S. Ft. Apache Rd. Kanji Sushi Social is held every Thursday on the patio with a live DJ, with happy hour every day from 4:00 -7:00 p.m. Call 702.914.8821 or visit facebook.com/kanjilv.



REGUS - TOWN SQUARE

Regus - Town Square announced its grand opening at 6671 Las Vegas Blvd. S. Regus is the world's largest provider of flexible workplaces. It has more than 1,800 business centers in 60 countries and provides convenient, high-quality, fully-serviced spaces for people to work. Call 800.633.4237 or visit regus.com.



RYTA'S ITALIAN ICE

Rita's Italian Ice commemorated its grand opening by presenting a check to the Blind Center of Nevada. Located at 5415 S. Rainbow Blvd., Rita's Italian Ice also offers fun ways to fundraise. Call 702.462.6210 or visit ritasspringvalley.com.



DOWNTOWN RANGERS

Downtown Rangers celebrated its one-year anniversary as the mobile concierge team available in the Downtown Fremont East Entertainment District. It offers continued top-of-the-line customer service to all who visit the newly revitalized downtown. Call 702.900.3274 or visit Facebook.com/DowntownRangers.

SPONSORED BY:



PC - President's Club

EL - Executive Level

\$ - Chamber Member Discount



INTEGRITY HOME HEALTH CARE

Integrity Home Health Care, founded in 2004 and providing quality home care in Las Vegas and Pahrump, celebrated its grand opening. It provides skilled nursing, physical, occupational and speech therapies, as well as social workers, aides and dieticians in patients' homes to help while recovering from surgeries, illnesses and much more. Call 702.384.1962 or visit ihhcnv.com.



INTERIOR GARDENS

Interior Gardens, established in 2003, celebrated its grand opening to the public. Located at 6275 S. Rainbow Blvd., the company offers a top-notch product that attracts and maintains a strong customer base. Call 702.818.4100 or visit igandco.com.



SPECIALIZED ALTERNATIVES FOR FAMILIES AND YOUTH (SAFY)

Specialized Alternatives for Families and Youth (SAFY), located at 4285 N. Rancho Dr., commemorated its Metro Chamber membership. Its mission is to foster an environment that positively impacts the lives of youth and their families. Call 702.385.5331 or visit safy.org.



UPSCALE VAPORS

Upscale Vapors announced its grand opening at 6115 S. Rainbow Blvd. as a "Destination Vape Lounge" with quality products, delicious e-liquids, relaxing lounge area and tasting bar. Follow them at Facebook.com/upscalevapors and Twitter.com/uvapors to sign up for VIP program. Call 702.608.4624 or visit upscalevaporslv.com.



YARD HOUSE LAS VEGAS, THE LINQ

Yard House Las Vegas, The LINQ celebrated its grand opening at 3545 Las Vegas Blvd. S. Situated with a prime view of the High Roller observation wheel, this is also the largest Yard House to date, with a massive outdoor patio. Call 702.597.0434 or visit yardhouse.com.

FEATURED BROKER:



DISTINCTIVE INSURANCE

Since 1990, Distinctive Insurance has been providing insurance and employee benefits consulting services to the Southern Nevada business community. As a leading broker representative of the Chamber Health Plan, Distinctive Insurance Group helps members who are business owners of all sizes provide excellent health benefits to their employees.

Phone: 702.396.4844
Website: Distinctive.net

aca employers checklist

ARE YOU COMPLIANT AND READY FOR 2015?

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ith the first half of 2014 already behind us, most employers are either in the process of or have already completed readjustments to their projected budgets for the remainder of the year. A significant part of most companies' budgets now includes the health insurance benefits offered to their employees.

With changes brought by the Affordable Care Act (ACA), here are some things employers need to keep in mind as they plan for 2015. Be sure to discuss with your financial planner and health insurance professional to ensure that your company is compliant and will continue to be as changes continue next year.

- New employee waiting periods of more than 90 days are prohibited for all plans.
- A national premium tax on most fully insured health insurance issuers has taken effect.
- All health insurance plans must pay transitional reinsurance fee annually from 2014 through 2016. The fee will be a flat amount based upon the number of covered lives.
- The individual mandate under the ACA took effect on January 1, 2014. All Americans are required to either obtain minimum essential health coverage through a private insurer or public program or face a tax penalty. In 2014, the penalty is \$95 or one percent of the individual's income, whichever is greater. In coming years, the penalty will be significantly higher.
- All group plans must cover children up to age 26. Married dependents of your employee can be eligible for the group health insurance income tax exclusion.
- All plans must be offered on a guaranteed issue basis. Pre-existing conditions limitations, as well as annual and lifetime limits, are now prohibited.
- All fully insured small groups (up to 100 employees in 2015) must abide by strict modified community rating standards with premium variations only allowed for age, tobacco use, family composition and geographic region. Medical claims experience rating is prohibited.
- In 2015, employers with more than 200 employees will have to auto-enroll all new employees into any available employer-sponsored health insurance plans.

CiB CHAMBER
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& BENEFITS



- Additionally, the employer responsibility requirements will take effect for companies that employ more than 100 full-time equivalent employees. Employers subject to the mandate that do not offer minimum essential coverage to full-time employees and their dependent children, or do not offer them coverage that meets minimum value and affordability standards and have employees who obtain subsidized coverage through the exchange, will be fined beginning with plan renewals in 2015.
- Employers will be required to report coverage information to the Exchange for the purposes of enforcing both the employer and individual coverage mandates.

The Affordable Care Act brings with it many facets which could potentially result in undesired penalties to employers. It is prudent to seek counsel from your health insurance broker or a knowledgeable financial professional proficient in the requirements of the ACA.



By William Wright, President, Chamber Insurance & Benefits, LLC. www.ChamberIB.com. Bulleted items provided by Media Relations Chairman of the National Association of Health Underwriters, Clark County chapter, Larry Harrison.



healthcare**heroes**2014

Save The Date

September 10th

Northern Nevada
Peppermill

September 11th

Southern Nevada
M Resort

6:30pm Networking | 7:00pm Event

Proceeds benefit students pursuing
careers in healthcare education.

For more information, go to
www.nevadabusiness.com/events

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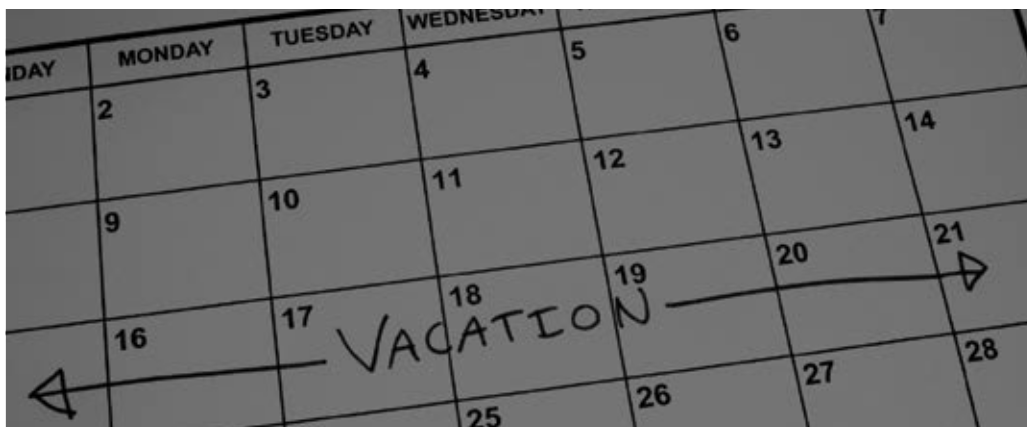
It's that time of year again to pick out your coolest summer whites and join VYP for White Hot, its signature annual mixer. Don't miss the festivities at GHOSTBAR inside the Palms Casino Resort on Thursday, August 21. This year, VYP is taking White Hot "to the nines" (in honor of the ninth year of this event) with a few surprises and ways for you to meet, expand your network and visit with your fellow Vegas Young Professionals.

In advance:
\$10 Members, \$15 Non-Members
At the door:
\$15 Members, \$20 Non-Members

For more information or to register, visit VegasYP.com or call 702.641.5822.

Mixer Sponsor:

VEGASINC



planning (or not planning) vacations and time away

Late in the summer or after school starts, I usually take vacation. This year, however, I had to take vacation time much earlier than I anticipated. My sister was involved in an accident mid-June and I was suddenly called out of work, and have been out for several weeks. My most important tip is to have a plan on what to do in an emergency or for when you're planning (or in my case, not planning) to be out of the office. It's always good to have a contingency plan.

In my case, it didn't work out this way, but if you have a vacation planned, the best way to get ahead of having several projects to complete just prior (or returning from) your vacation is to let your supervisor and colleagues know as soon as possible. This helps ensure that your clients and workload are adequately covered before you leave, and can help mitigate your colleagues feeling overwhelmed with the additional work while you're gone. It will also ensure that you aren't scheduling vacation during a critical work period or special event.

Know the people on your team who can help you when you are out, or to whom you can direct clients and other questions in your absence. If you have people in place who are briefed and familiar with what you do and how to do it, they can step in if and when you are out. The more you get done ahead of time, the less you have to think about when you return.

Next, remember to update your contacts in your CRM system. Whatever you do, make sure your top clients

know who can help them if you are not available. If your customers feel important, they will feel good about having someone else help them. Also, when you are out of the office, remember that it is perfectly fine if you don't answer every phone call, text or email within thirty seconds of it landing on your cell phone. Everyone understands not being 100% available 24/7 – especially when your "out of office" is telling them that you're not available, and sending them to a capable person on your team who can assist them.

It's all about being prepared and keeping your team – and supervisors – in the loop. If you're in a situation like mine, don't forget about the power of your network to connect you with resources and assistance, should you need it. It's a great thing to know that if you need help from your network they are there for you; all you need to do is ask.

By: Shannon Sweeney,
Synthetic Turf Products,
VYP Advisory Council

member to member

VIVA .VEGAS



By Dusty Trevino, CFO,
Dot Vegas, Inc. nic.vegas

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as Vegas is at the forefront of a paradigm shift happening right now on the Internet with the potential to expand opportunities and change the way everyone navigates the Web and conducts business in the digital world. Recently, the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), the entity that controls addressing on the Internet, massively expanded the availability of top-level domains (TLDs) beyond the most commonly recognized .com, .net and .org extensions. Companies like Google and Amazon are investing heavily in securing brand-specific top level domains as part of this emerging trend.

With the introduction and roll out of .vegas, which began June 2, our city joins several worldwide destinations with dedicated, right-of-the-dot digital addresses. Las Vegas is one of only four U.S. cities, including Miami, Boston and New York City, with a top-level domain on the Internet. However, unlike .nyc, which is restricted to domain applicants with a proven nexus to the city, .vegas is completely unrestricted, meaning anyone anywhere in the world may register a web address with a .vegas extension.

Internet search is becoming more and more localized, meaning it is likely that a .vegas address will eventually achieve higher search rank than a similarly named .com – think weather.vegas vs. vegasweather.com or lawyer.vegas vs. vegaslawyer.com.

Local companies are the top priority of .vegas. Outside of the defined registration periods outlined below, Dot Vegas, Inc. offers a **Founders Program** that allows enterprises with particular interest in promoting their Las Vegas brand or services to reserve relevant .vegas domain names before registration is open to the general public. Several local companies and organizations are already on board.

How To Reserve .Vegas Addresses

Those interested in owning a .vegas domain name may register with any of the 50-plus major domain name registrars with whom Dot Vegas, Inc. has signed agreements. These include, among others, GoDaddy, Enom, Network Solutions or 1and1. The registrars determine registration fees for .vegas domain names, which are expected to be typical and consistent with most other TLDs.



Trademark Sunrise: From **June 2 to August 1, 2014**, individuals or companies that have registered with the Trademark Clearinghouse (TMCH), a global repository of trademark and service mark data, may register their .vegas domains. For more information or if you are not sure about your trademark, you can find answers at the following site: <http://www.trademark-clearinghouse.com/content/priority-trademarks-vegas>.

Land Rush: During the Land Rush period from **August 14 to September 10, 2014**, numerous high-demand premium domains will be available for anyone anywhere to register.

General Availability: Beginning **September 15, 2014**, .vegas domain names will be available to the general public. Individuals and enterprises from all parts of the world will actively compete for names on a first come, first served basis.

For more information on how to obtain a .vegas domain, visit nic.vegas.

the final word

METRO CHAMBER LEADERSHIP ENGAGES U.S. CONGRESSMAN ROGER WILLIAMS



L

eaders of the Metro Chamber recently had the opportunity to meet with Congressman Roger Williams (R-TX). Congressman Williams serves as a member of the House Budget Committee and the House Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure.

He understands the challenges that employers are facing in today's economic climate. During the conversation, Congressman Williams shared his concerns with the

implementation of the Texas Margin Tax and the challenges that it has created for businesses in Texas. He agrees with the Metro Chamber that the Margin Tax is a confusing and flawed tax policy.

Congressman Williams is a rising leader within the House of Representatives and expressed his willingness to work on legislation such as Interstate 11. The Metro Chamber looks forward to welcoming him back and continuing the conversation.

add these to your queue

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Four Seasons Las Vegas
3960 Las Vegas Blvd. South

11:30 A.M. - Noon: Check In & Networking
Noon - 1:00 P.M.: Program

\$50: Members | \$65: Non-members | \$500: Table of 10

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**TO REGISTER OR FOR MORE INFORMATION,
CALL 702.641.5822 OR VISIT LVCHAMBER.COM**

JULY 2014

LAS VEGAS BUSINESS BREAKFAST



**MAJOR GENERAL
JAY B. SILVERIA**

**THURS, | 8:00 -
JULY 17 | 9:30 A.M.**

Texas Station
2101 Texas Star Ln N

**\$25: Members
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\$250: Table of 10**

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